

A<sup>4</sup> 20. (Amended)The process of claim 1, wherein the feed stream comprises an organic acid amide selected from the group consisting of lactamide, pyruvamide, beta-hydroxybutyramide, propionamide, and acetamide.

A<sup>5</sup> 32. (Amended)The process of claim 1, wherein the azeotroping agent is a hydrocarbon having a boiling point of between about 100 °C less than and 150 °C more than the organic acid [the] boiling point.

A<sup>6</sup> 41. (Amended)The process of claim 1, wherein the process is a continuous process.

### REMARKS

The amendment of claim 1 corrects grammar errors. The amendment of claim 10 is supported in the specification on page 19 at lines 16-20, page 20 at line 31, and page 21 at lines 1-2. The amendments of claims 20, 32 and 41 correct grammar and punctuation errors. Amendment of the specification inserts a serial number of a referenced co-pending application.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2027.602000/SAW.

Respectfully submitted,

*Stephanie A. Wardwell*

Stephanie A. Wardwell  
Reg. No. 48,025  
Agent for Applicants

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C.  
7676 Hillmont, Suite 250  
Houston, Texas 77040  
(713) 934-4077  
(713) 934-7011 (fax)

Dated: May 10, 2001